```
        *****************
        AMIS BBS SOFTWARE
        *****************
```

This disk contains your copy of
A.M.I.S. (Atari Message and
Information System) Release 2.3.

BACK THIS DISK UP ONTO TWO DISKS
BEFORE USING!!! Instructions will
follow, on how to do this.

Part 1. AMIS Set-Up - Contains
the files BBS (BBS is the AMIS
program) and INIT. Also has
DOS.SYS, DUP.SYS, and
AUTORUN.SYS (after copying
AUTORUN.UDL onto the other disk,
rename it AUTORUN.SYS). INIT is
the program that is used to set
up AMIS data, index, and
configuration files. This program
was used to create Part 2.

Part 2. AMIS Data - Contains AMIS
data, index, and configuration
files for a working AMIS system.
No DOS files should be included
on this disk in order to maximize
available storage. The message
and caller files are empty. The
disk was created using the
procedures described below.

    AMIS 2.3 SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

- Atari 400 or 800 48k RAM
- TV monitor (required only for
    file maintenance and setup).

- Atari 850 Interface
- Atari Disk Drive
- Atari parallel printer.
- Auto Answer modem (Hayes
  Smartmodem, Novation Auto-Cat,
  MicroConnection, or any other
  auto answer unit that will drop
  the line in Data Terminal Ready
  (DTR) is switched low. The
  Hayes may be required for
  future Automatic Node Dialing &
  Information Exchange feature).

System Set-Up

Start with all power off. Make
sure auto answer modem is con-
nected to serial port #1.

Set your modem to auto-answer
mode. If you are using a Hayes,
remove the plastic front piece of
Smartmodem. Locate DIP switch at
front of board. Flip switches up
1 thru 7 up. Put the plastic
front piece back on. Hook the
modem up to port 1 of the 850
interface.

Power the 850 up.

Power the Modem (On the Hayes,
AA, TR and MR LEDS will light
up).

Power the 810 up.

Power printer up.

Put BASIC in 400 or 800.

Put DISK #1 (Set-Up) in the 810.

Power the 800/400/ and monitor up.

Type LOAD "D:BBS". After the
program loads and the 810 stops
spinning, remove DISK#1 and put
DISK#2 (Data files) into the 810.

Type RUN. You will be asked to
enter the date. Enter it in the
form MM/DD/YY. Use the slash as
your delimiter between the month,
day, and year. Two digits for
each (don't forget leading zeroes
such as 2/04/82 for example for
February 4, 1982.

You will then be prompted for the
time. Enter the Military (24
HOUR) Time in a format of
HH/MM/SS. You may use the slash
as delimiter again for simplic-
ity's sake. (Example: 20/30/00
for 8:30 PM).

If you have the sound turned up
you will hear the computer start
ticking. Don't worry...it won't
blow up. The screen will display
a digital clock. The ticking may
stop occasionally..don't worry,
the clock won't lose any time.

That's it! You're up and running!
IF YOU WANT TO TAKE AMIS DOWN
wait until the system is not
being used by a caller and
DEPRESS THE START BUTTON UNTIL
YOU HEAR THE DISK BEING WRITTEN
TO. This updates the
configuration files with current
NOTE and POINT info.

Several types of things will be
printed on the printer:

-Name, City, and Time of caller.
-User Comments if caller answers
 Y to "ANY COMMENTS?" prompt at
 Good-Bye time.
-Unexpected error reporting (We
 feel 99.99% of all possible
 errors are proprerly TRAPPED in
 this release. The only error
 messages that may be printed are
 ERROR 138 at LINE 292. This
 occurs when some nimrod calling
 their Aunt Bessie misdials and
 tries to speak to the modem for
 a while. This error WILL NOT
 bring AMIS down...we expect it
 to happen and want an idea of
 how often it occurs.)

 AMIS WILL blow up if the printer
 is not on or out of paper, so
 make sure there is enough...one
 roll should last a long time.

    MAINTENANCE PROGRAMS

Before we get into the functions
and use of the maintenance
programs, here's a helpful little
discussion of the various files
that make up AMIS.

 AMIS DATA DISK (DISK #2) FILES

WELCOME.DAT - This file contains
the Welcome message that users
receive at entry into the AMIS
system. This message file can be

accessed again by the user by
using the "W" command.
WELCOME.DAT is a standard ASCII
file. It will normally be created
once by the SYSOP (System
Operaor) and remain unchanged for
long periods of time.

BULLET.DAT - Is intended to
contain current topical bulletins
of interest to the general user
audience. Coming user group
meeting agendas, pointing out new
AMIS features as they are added,
et cetera. BULLET.DAT is a
standard ASCII file. It may be
created or replaced with the
Assembler-Editor cartridge,
MEDIT, or any text editor--even
the DOS Copy function, copying to
the disk from E:. The bulletins
file is displayed after the
welcome message at AMIS system
entry. It may also be recalled by
using the "B" command.

NEWUSER.DAT - Is an explanatory
message (also a straight ASCII
file) which is sent to the AMIS
user if the question "IS THIS
YOUR FIRST TIME ON THE SYSTEM?"
is answered with a "Y". This is a
good spot for the Sysop to inform
the user of any special features
of the particular AMIS
installation (multiple
catalogues, EMAIL, and so forth).
Remember, we plan on extra
features for multiple drive AMIS
systems. This file is not
re-displayed by an AMIS command.

FUNC.DAT - Is a short description

of the AMIS commands available to the user. This file is only displayed by using the "?" command. FUNC.DAT is ASCII also.

HELP.DAT - This ASCII file is displayed in response to the "H" command (for HELP). It contains a longer description of each AMIS command.

All of these files are straight-forward in format (ASCII and ye shall receive!). The AMIS team realizes that the command description and help files may not be completely cogent for those who are not communications cogniscenti...feel free to improve upon these files if you wish. They may also be created using a text editor or word processor such as TextWizard. Make sure you backup any data disk before you alter any of these files.

!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
DON'T MESS DIRECTLY WITH THE
FOLLOWING FILES
!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

MESSAGE.DAT - A pre-formatted file which holds all of the messages entered into the AMIS system.

MESSAGE.ISM - An index file into MESSAGE.DAT containing pertinent POINT data for active messages in the MESSAGE.DAT file.

CALLERS.DAT - A pre-formatted
file which holds a list of
consecutive AMIS system callers.
The name of each caller is
automatically added to this file
at sign-on time.

CONFIG - This file contains POINT
information into the first free
blocks in the message and callers
files.

Yes Virginia, we realize we
haven't talked about the file
NOROOM.UDL. don't worry about it.
We will talk about Upload and
Download in a future release.

    CARE AND USE OF THE AMIS SETUP
    AND MAINTENANCE FILES (DISK #1)

The AMIS setup and maintenance
disk enclosed contains seven
files:

        DOS.SYS
        DUP.SYS
        AUTORUN.SYS
        INIT
        BBS
        CALLERS.COM
        MESSAGE.COM

The DOS.SYS and DUP.SYS are the
DOS 2.0s files we all know and
love (well, maybe...like). The
AUTORUN.SYS is the standard RS232
driver boot for the 850 interface.

BBS is the AMIS program. Its use
was documented in "AMIS set-up"

above.

INIT is a program that will
set-up and initialize the files
MESSAGE.DAT, MESSAGE.ISM,
CALLERS.DAT, and CONFIG. Want to
put a brand new data disk
together? Heres how to do it:

    MAKING NEW AMIS DATA DISKS
             (DISK#2)
    ----

1. Bring your 800 with BASIC
cartridge up from cold start with
the SETUP DISK. Your 800 and 810
are the only things you'll need
for this process, so you can
leave the rest of the system off
if you're into saving energy.

2. After the READY prompt type
LOAD"D:INIT". After it completes
loading REMOVE THE SETUP DISK
FROM THE 810.

3. Insert a blank formatted
diskette in the 810 (No DOS files
please...they only waste valuable
message space) and type RUN.

4. You will be asked for the
number of sectors for the message
file. We suggest you use 350.
Type 350 and hit return.

5. Relax, while the 810 churns
its way through the wild, untamed
ferrite particles of your
magnetic media.

6. After your 810 is finished

with the message file it will ask
for the number of sectors for the
caller's file. 175 is as good a
number as any. Type 175 and hit
return.

7. After beating up on your 810
for another eternity the program
will end and you will get the
READY prompt from BASIC again.

8. Copy the files WELCOME.DAT,
BULLET.DAT, FUNC.DAT,
NEWUSER.DAT, NOROOM.UDL and
HELP.DAT from your original AMIS
DATA DISK (Part 2) or create your
own version of the ASCII files on
the newly intialized diskette.

9. BACK YOUR NEW DISK UP and use
it instead on DISK #2 as the Data
Disk when setting up your AMIS as
outlined in our first letter to
you.

             FILE MAINTENANCE

The callers and message files
will eventually become full. A
message file of 350 sectors has
room for about 80 or so messages.
Killed (inactive) messages still
take up space. Only their
pointers have been removed from
the message index file
MESSAGE.ISM. Both of these files
should be periodically
"compressed" by the SYSOP by
using the programs on the setup
disk; MESSAGE.COM and CALLERS.COM

1. Take your AMIS down as outlined in our initial letter. Remember to depress the START button until the current CONFIG information is saved and the BASIC "READY" prompt appears.

2. BACK UP THE DATA DISK

3. Boot the system up using DISK#1

4. Get out a joystick and a beer (or a Pina Colada if appropriate). Plug the joystick in 800 port #1.

5. Type LOAD"D:MESSAGE.COM". After the program loads remove Disk #1 from the 810 and insert your current Data Disk.

6. Type RUN. The program will step through every ACTIVE message and ask you to kill or keep each one. Kill outdated, offensive, and tacky material. Keep artful, informative, and useful messages. Also keep messages from those friends you wish to stay on speaking terms with. Messages that were killed by users are automatically deleted. Push UP on the joystick to keep the message displayed on the screen or push DOWN on the joystick to kill (delete) the message. IT IS VITAL THAT YOU RUN THROUGH THE ENTIRE MESSAGE FILE IN ONE PASS. DO NOT BREAK OUT OF EITHER COMPRESSION PROGRAM!!

7. After the message compression program ends, put down your joystick. Remove the data disk

and insert the setup disk in the
810. Type LOAD"D:CALLERS.COM".

8. After the program loads remove
the setup disk and put your data
disk back in the drive. Type RUN.
You will be asked to enter a
cutoff date for compression of
the callers file. Enter the
desired date in the format
MM/DD/YY (example: 02/14/82 for
February 14,1982) and hit RETURN.
All callers entries prior to the
entered date will be deleted and
the file will be compressed. This
program requires no further input
from the sysop.

9. When the programs ends you may
take your newly compressed data
disk and use it as Disk #2 in the
normal AMIS setup procedure. BACK
IT UP BEFORE YOU DO THIS.

We suggest that this maintenance
process be carried out at least
once a week for starters. Once
you get used to the amount of
activity on an individual AMIS
you may decide to compress the
files more or less often. You can
browse the CALLERS.DAT and
MESSAGE.DAT files when the system
is down by using the COPY
function of DOS 2.0s. For
example, after entering option
"C" on the DOS menu one might
respond to the "FROM,TO" prompt
with "CALLERS.DAT,S:". This will
copy the selected file to the
screen so you can get an idea of
what date to use as a cutoff for
the callers file, or how full the

message data file is. Empty
preformatted space in either the
callers or message files will
print on the screen after the
comprehensible stuff. It looks
like a lot of garbage, but dont
worry about that. If you see a
LOT of garbage after the good
stuff it means you probably have
a lot of room left in the
individual file. If only one of
the files needs to be compressed
you may elect not to compress the
other. If you don't want to
bother trying to figure out how
full th e callers file is this
way, just enter a date two or
three days before the the current
date when asked by the
CALLERS.COM program.

                    RANDOM NOTES

Some things that we are in the
process of changing: We are
modifying our GET and PUT
character BASIC routines into
assembler. This should make
viewing what's going on on your
AMIS possible using your system
monitor without slowing
transmission speed and will
increase uploading speed. We are
also changing the Summary routine
so that it may be paused or
interrupted by the control keys.
Preliminary design of ANDIE is in
progress.

Well that's all for now. UPLOAD
and DOWNLOAD features will be

documented when we get the time.

Atarily Yours,

      M.A.C.E.